

18 May 1972

Professor Harry Howe Ransom
Chairman
Department of Political Science
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Dear Harry,

I am now able to provide a fuller reply to your March 13th letter, regarding CIA-Congressional relations. I can make these statements:

1. The Agency is primarily responsible to four Subcommittees of the Congress -- these are Subcommittees of the House and Senate Armed Services and Appropriations Committees. The Agency keeps these Subcommittees informed on every aspect of its operations, programs, budget, personnel strength, etc. It also provides these Subcommittees with periodic intelligence briefings on world events bearing on U.S. security.

2. Besides these periodic intelligence briefings several times a year, the Agency is in continuing contact on virtually a daily basis with the Chairmen or Staff members of these four Subcommittees, keeping them fully and promptly informed on both intelligence items of special significance and Agency activities of all kinds.

3. In addition to these contacts with the four oversight Subcommittees, the Agency periodically briefs a number of other congressional committees and subcommittees, particularly the full Armed Services Committees of the House and Senate; the Defense Subcommittees of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees; the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and various of its Subcommittees; the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy; etc.

4. Over the past five years the Agency has averaged 23 briefings per year of congressional committees and major subcommittees.

5. Besides these formal briefings of committees and subcommittees, the Agency regularly briefs individual members of Congress on particular subjects on request. Over the past five years there has been an average of 81 such briefings per year in the Washington area.

6. In addition to briefings on intelligence and operational matters, the Agency has regular contact with the Congress on a wide variety of other subjects, including response to queries, congressional recommendations for applicants for employment, etc.

7. Over the past five years the Agency has received, and responded to, an average of 1,080 written communications per year from members of Congress, and Agency officers have had an average of 1,450 personal contacts per year with members of Congress and their staffs.

I hope that the above will be of at least some assistance in meeting the questions you pose.

All best wishes,



STAT

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Department of Political Science • Direct phone 322-2461

March 13, 1972

STAT

[redacted]
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

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Dear [redacted]

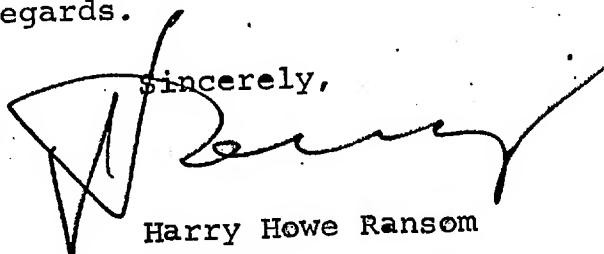
Is there any non-secret information available in print (originating in the Agency) about CIA-Congressional relations?

For example, has there been any tabulation about how many times CIA representatives have met with Congressional committees per year, or related information.

Would appreciate any information or advice you can give me in this regard.

Best regards.

sincerely,


Harry Howe Ransom
Chairman

HHR:erm

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Remarks:

This response was worked up
with the assistance of Jack Maury,
the Office of Security, and the
OGC.

STAT
cc: [Redacted]

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